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# “Mwwaarrgaarh”

Chewbacca would be pleased that the recognition of May 4 as unofficial International Star Wars Day appears to be catching on in Ottawa. Fans of the film flocked to Parliament Hill on Monday to hear the Star Wars theme played from the Peace Tower Carillon. Coverage, metroNEWS. ELAINE THOMPSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Police scare pot lounge users: Owner

### HEALTH

**‘We’re not  
doing anything  
illegal,’ Wayne  
Robillard says**



**Lucy  
Scholey**  
Metro | Ottawa

The owner of BuzzOn, Ottawa’s new vapour lounge, is accusing police of trying to intimidate his customers.

Wayne Robillard told reporters at city hall on Wednesday that police have stopped in three times since he opened on April 20 and asked customers for ID. Officers confiscated one person’s marijuana, he said.

“They’re trying to find a backdoor way to shut us down,” he said, clad in a white T-shirt with “I am Cannabian” emblazoned across the front. “We’re not doing anything illegal, so they have to find another way.”

Robillard said “hundreds” of people have stopped in to the lounge at 29 Montreal Rd. and he has a clientele of about a dozen regulars. He’s even considering quitting his day job as the operations manager at a manufacturing firm to run the lounge on a full-time basis.

The lounge is meant to be a place for medical-marijuana

users to puff their medication in the company of others, but Robillard said he’s now instructing customers on their rights.

“Is it worth trying to criminalize a few people when there’s so many who are benefiting?” he said, adding, “I’m not going to say that there’s absolutely no recreational use whatsoever. That would be ludicrous of me.”

Robillard explains that he does not sell weed; he sells memberships. However, he said it would be inappropriate for him to ask customers for their medical card.

The police response is “directly proportionate” to Mayor Jim Watson’s reaction to the vapour lounge, he said. Last week, Watson said he was not impressed with the venue and that he expected police to enforce the laws.

Clayton Goodwin, executive director of Veterans for the Use of Medical Marijuana, called the mayor’s reaction “discrimination” against patients.

“What resides in BuzzOn is a community,” he said. “There are people there that are medicating there that have anxiety. There are people that are medicating that have mental illness. Then you have police storming in that have guns and uniforms.”

A spokesman for Ottawa police said they were continuing to monitor and investigate BuzzOn but would not comment further.





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# Anti-sex-ed sentiment overstated here: Boards

## EDUCATION

**Curriculum fears 'being overblown,' trustee says**



**Haley Ritchie**  
Metro | Ottawa

The provincewide protest against Ontario's new sex-education curriculum had a much smaller impact in Ottawa than it did in Toronto, according to both of the city's school boards.

Despite the outrage on an Ontario-wide Facebook group with 11,000 members, both school boards and their trustees confirmed that few children were removed from school.

Sharlene Hunter, the communications officer for the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board, said fewer than three per cent of students were absent Monday. The situation was similar at schools in the Ottawa Catholic School Board.

"We have had very few absences reported that may be related to the provincial protest," said a statement released by the Ottawa Catholic School Board. The board confirmed that one or two letters excusing children from school had been received.

"It is always a parent's and guardian's right to remove their child from the school for any number of personal reasons," says the statement.

Robin Matthews, an Ottawa mother of four, is one local par-



**A demonstrator holds up a sign to protest against Ontario's new sex education curriculum in Toronto on Tuesday. A group of parents is threatening to pull their kids out of school this week in protest of the curriculum.** DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

ent who decided to take her four children out of school for the week.

"I just feel that they're introducing in the curriculum issues to children they're not quite ready for. They're also introducing things that I think are better left for parents to discuss with their own children," she said in an interview.

"The government's sex ed should be about promoting safe

sex and teaching general acceptance and tolerance. I can understand the government getting involved in that.

In particular, Matthews says she feels that students shouldn't be learning about masturbation and pleasure in the classroom. She also said she is concerned about kindergarteners learning about genitals.

At least four other parents from Ottawa posted on the On-

tario-wide Facebook group.

"This is not about same-sex marriage for me. I have gay members of my family. It is the graphic sexual content at such a young age," wrote Krystal Cain-Gebara.

Several Ottawa school board trustees contacted said they had heard very little concern from parents.

"It's definitely being overblown," said Donna Blackburn, trustee for Barrhaven and

Knoxdale-Merivale, adding that she had received a single email concerning the new curriculum in her inbox.

"There's a lot of misinformation that's being put out, predominantly by the religious right, and they're just playing on people's fears," she said. "This curriculum, from my perspective, is about giving students the information they need to make good choices."

## BASICS

# 5 things to know about sex ed

**What does the new curriculum look like?**

It will teach students in Grade 1 the proper names for body parts. Grade 2 students will learn about the broad concept of consent by being told that no means no. Concepts of gender identity will be introduced in Grade 3. Discussions about puberty move to Grade 4 from Grade 5, while education about intercourse will take place the following year.

Masturbation and "gender expression" will be mentioned in Grade 6, while kids in Grades 7 and 8 will discuss contraception, anal and oral sex, preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. Students will also learn about online bullying.

**Who opposes the curriculum and why?**

Some of the objections come from religious groups who claim the curriculum doesn't align with their values. Some parents have also accused the government of failing to allow them enough input into the development of the new curriculum.

**What do the other provinces do?**

Ontario hadn't previously updated the curriculum since 1998 and argues that the changes are necessary to bring sexual education in line with other provinces.

By teaching concepts around sexual orientation and gender identity at an early age, it joins the ranks of Quebec, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia.

At least four other provinces choose to tackle the issue in Grade 6 or beyond. Concepts like consent, contraception and online safety appear on nearly every provincial curriculum. Some provinces begin teaching these concepts as early as kindergarten.

**When does it kick in?**

Education Minister Liz Sandals has said that the new curriculum will go into effect this September.

**Is it mandatory?**

No. Parents have the right to withdraw their kids from all or part of the new curriculum.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## CAMPAIGN

# One Toronto school sees over 90% absentee rate

A parent-led campaign to keep children home from class in protest of Ontario's new sexual-education curriculum gained early traction on Monday as at least one school reported that nearly all of its students were absent.

A spokesman with the Toronto District School Board reported that at least one of the city's elementary schools had an absentee rate of more than 90 per cent on the first day of the cam-

paign, which was largely organized through Facebook.

Many of the objections to the updated curriculum have been mounted on religious grounds. Opponents have argued that the new program, which will teach students about concepts including gender identity, sexual orientation and masturbation, does not align with their values and is not appropriate for school-age children.

Curriculum supporters, however, contend the updated guidelines have brought Ontario in line with the rest of the provinces in Canada as well as several jurisdictions in the United States.

Opposition efforts grew more vocal in recent weeks with the advent of a Facebook group called "Parents & Students on strike: one week no school." The group encouraged parents who oppose the curriculum to keep their kids

at home in protest, even offering a letter template to explain their children's absence.

The Toronto District School Board did not yet have estimates of how many children were kept out of class across the city, but did state that their absences would be treated just like any other and students were responsible for catching up to any missed classwork.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## + IN THE U.S.

Sex ed has long been a hot-button issue in the United States, where some conservative jurisdictions have brought in abstinence-only sex-ed instruction, while others have programs similar or even more progressive than Ontario's.



**+ DUFFY TRIAL**

**Case has developed unique set of terms**

Sen. Mike Duffy's trial begins its fifth week Monday — an opportunity to look at the unique lexicon that's sprung up around the case.

**Age Wave:** A nebulous project Duffy discussed with trainer Mike Crokery to promote physical activity among baby boomers. Crokery was paid Senate funds through the Ottawa ICF contract for consulting services Duffy said he provided during exercise sessions.

**Insulating concrete forms:** A home construction system in which concrete is poured between reinforced polystyrene foam forms; also the core product of a company (Maple Ridge Media/Ottawa ICF) to which Duffy awarded up to \$65,000 in contracts for business he said was Senate-related.

**Mistake-repay scenario:** Term coined by defence lawyer Donald Bayne; refers to alleged plan by Prime Minister's Office to force Duffy to say he had made a mistake claiming \$90,000 in living expenses, and then to repay expenses, thereby helping make a political problem go away.

**SARs:** "Senate Administrative Rules." A foundational document guiding the work of senators.

**Volunteer:** A) a person who works without remuneration. B) a person who might receive a cheque for \$500 as a thank-you for their free work, as did Duffy's office figure Ashley Cain through the Ottawa ICF contract (see above).

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Suspended senator Mike Duffy arrives at the courthouse in Ottawa during his trial last month. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Crown and defence haggle in Duffy trial

## SENATE EXPENSES

### Judge hears arguments over 2010 audit report

Mike Duffy's trial is taking a short detour this week as the Crown and defence haggle over a piece of evidence, and how much weight the judge should afford it.

Ontario Justice Charles Vailancourt is hearing arguments about whether a particular Senate committee report can be considered fact for the purposes of the suspended sen-

ator's trial.

The 2010 document prepared for the internal economy committee is heavily based on the result of three audits conducted for the Senate by the firm Ernst & Young.

The content of the report is important to Duffy's defence because it points to systemic problems in Senate administrative practices.

Duffy has pleaded not guilty to 31 counts of fraud, breach of trust and bribery, most of which relate to living and travel expenses and to Senate contracts he arranged.

Much of his defence so far has focused on the lack of clarity in the Senate rules, and

the argument that he is only guilty of making administrative mistakes.

The Crown is expected to argue that the report should only be treated as opinion or hearsay, because it is based on the work of outside individuals.

Defence lawyer Donald Bayne is arguing that while the report is based on Ernst & Young audits, it went through three separate layers of validation, consideration and approval at the Senate and should be considered a product wholly of the committee.

As a Senate committee report, Bayne says it meets the test for being treated as an official public document under

## + BACKGROUND

The suspended senator has pleaded not guilty to 31 counts of fraud, breach of trust and bribery.

the Canada Evidence Act.

He cited a 1996 Ontario Court of Appeal decision in which four criteria are laid out for the admissibility of evidence as a public document in court, and said the report meets all of them.

"There is inherent reliability in the fact of it being a public document," Bayne said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## PRIVACY

# Drone disturbs resident and wife



**Joe Lofaro**  
Metro | Ottawa

A Barrhaven resident has a 21st-century problem that the City of Ottawa doesn't seem to have a solution for just yet.

Somebody is continually flying a drone over his house and he doesn't know who it is.

Scott Gorry couldn't see who was operating it and didn't know what it was being used for and that's what really gets under his skin.

"I was a little disturbed," he told Metro on Monday.

"You don't know what the motive behind it is ... is it any different than catching somebody with a set of binoculars looking into your house? I don't know.

"Is it any different with somebody flying it over top of a children's park and happens to be a child sex offender and this is their way of getting the gratification they need? I don't know.

"Those are extremes, obviously. But on the other end of things, this is my personal property."

The last time he spotted the device was Sunday afternoon while he was doing yard work.

The drone freaked his wife out so much that she had to go inside their home, he said.

"I think the city should study it.

"I think the city should look at the impacts of it and hear from the community," said Gorry.

In an email to Metro, the City of Ottawa said municipalities are limited in regulating the use of drones due to federal regulations that govern aeronautics.

"According to its records, By-law Services has not received any complaints about drones," the city said.



**Is it any different from catching somebody with a set of binoculars looking into your house?**

Scott Gorry,  
Barrhaven resident

## HIGHWAY 417

# Flying wheels pose road hazard

Watch out for wheels falling off the 417.

The Ottawa detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police says a cube van and a sports-utility vehicle each lost their wheels in separate incidents while driving on the highway in recent days.

On Friday, the cube van lost both its back wheels near the Pinecrest overpass.

Police say there were no injuries, but an Ottawa-area company has been charged with

an offence under the Highway Traffic Act.

On Sunday, also near the Pinecrest exit, an SUV lost its left front wheel. Police say the wheel bounced over the median and struck a sedan going in the other direction. Both the driver and passenger of the sedan were taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Police say the driver of the SUV was pulling over when the wheel fell off. No charges have been laid. METRO

## + BE SAFE

It is a good safety practice to inspect the wheels, wheel fasteners and tires after having new tires or wheels installed.

Wheel manufacturers recommend having wheel fasteners rechecked between 80 km and 160 km after installation.

## TRAFFIC

# Roadwork kicks off

And the downtown summer construction work continues.

Expect traffic headaches on Nicholas Street starting Monday, May 11, and lasting until October.

The street will be reduced to one lane in each direction.

Crews will work on installing new sewer and watermain infrastructure along Nicholas Street, the rehabilitation of the Mann Avenue overpass and road resurfacing.

It's part of the Confederation Line construction for the Light Rail Transit system, which opens in 2018.

This work will be ongoing during the day.

Noise levels are expected to be "low to moderate," according to a City of Ottawa memo.

Drivers should leave earlier or find alternative travel means like cycling, transit or carpooling.

LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

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Anzo Nguyen, 15, holds up his winning answer at the Canadian Geography Challenge in Ottawa on Monday. JOE LOFARO/METRO

# Alex Trebek crowns Calgary whiz kid

## GEOGRAPHY CHALLENGE

**15-year-old  
\$5,000 richer  
after national  
competition**



**Joe  
Lofaro**  
Metro | Ottawa

Anzo Nguyen, a 15-year-old high school student from Calgary, wanted to have a bit of fun before Jeopardy! host Alex Trebek crowned him as Canada's national geography champion in Ottawa on Monday.

Already in the lead by several points, the last question of the gruelling Canadian Geographic Challenge asked him to name the longest river in Europe.

Instead of holding up his an-

swer card with "Volga" on it like some of his other competitors, he cheekily wrote "Hey Canada! I won!!!"

Not only did he win bragging rights, but a cheque for \$5,000, too.

"It feels really great. It's not every day you make that much money in one hour," said Nguyen.

The Henry Wise Wood High School student said he prepared for the national competition by

reading travel books and watching travel documentaries on National Geographic. Now, he's \$5,000 richer. "I think I'm probably going to save it for university or use it to buy new maps for my school because a lot of them are really old," he said. "They're, like, from the 80s."

Trebek presented a \$3,000 cheque to Aaron Abraham of Calgary and a \$2,000 cheque to Malhaar Moharir of Toronto.

**\$100,000**

The longtime TV host and world geography guru made a \$100,000 donation to the National Geographic Foundation, which gave a grant to the Royal Canadian Geographical Society to host a live competition.

## IN BRIEF

### Victoria Day Festival comes to Little Italy

While you're taking time to stop and smell the tulips on the Victoria Day long weekend, head to the festival in Little Italy.

The Victoria Day Festival will take over the Preston Street neighbourhood, with kids' games and a slice of Italian culture with gelato and desserts.

The Adult High School at Preston and Louisa streets will host kids' games and a petting zoo. A horse-drawn wagon will guide visitors along Preston Street to Dow's Lake for a tour of the tulips.

The launch of the Victoria Day Festival will be May 15 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. The weekend will end with a fireworks display in the soccer field of Adult High School on May 18 at 10 p.m.

LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

### Strange looking water? It's just the city's annual fire hydrant test

If your water looks strange or your laundry is off-colour, there's probably nothing wrong with your faucet.

The Ottawa Fire Services is doing its annual fire hydrant test. The city is testing about 10,000 fire hydrants in the south, centre and west ends of the city from now until October.

The testing can affect water pressure or the colour of your water. If this happens, turn off the tap for 10 to 20 minutes and do not do laundry if you spot crews working on fire hydrants in your neighbourhood.

Check out the work schedule on the city's website, [www.ottawa.ca](http://www.ottawa.ca).

LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

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## SHOOTING

# No arrests made in Sharif Said homicide, Ottawa police say

Ottawa police are still on the hunt for a suspect in the city's third murder of the year.

Sharif Said was gunned down in an east-end neighbourhood early Sunday morning. The 21-year-old later died in hospital.

Several news reports say the shooting may have been gang-related — an allegation his family denies.

"That's what the family is adamant about dispelling, that he was a member of a gang," Abdul Hassan, Said's uncle, told

CTV Ottawa. Ottawa police have so far not confirmed whether the murder was drug- or gang-related.

Court records obtained by CTV show Said as convicted of assault and break-and-enter in June of 2013. The network reported that Said breached his sentence and spent nine months in jail. CTV also reported that Said was convicted and fined for obstructing justice in March 2014.

The shooting jolted many

residents of the area near Tremblay and Belfast roads from their sleep on Sunday morning. But people who live in the area told Metro they're not worried for their safety after the shooting.

Anyone with information about this investigation is asked to contact Major Crime at 613-236-1222 ext. 5493.

Anonymous tips can be submitted by calling Crime Stoppers toll-free at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), or by downloading the Ottawa Police iOS app. METRO



Members of the Capital City Garrison, a group of Star Wars fans and costume makers who often participate at events in the city, pose for a photo at 2014 CityKidz spring launch.

CONTRIBUTED

# A force for good on Star Wars Day

MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU

## City's chapter of fan group don costumes for good cause



**Haley Ritchie**  
Metro|Ottawa

Star Wars fans in downtown Ottawa were greeted with a familiar tune at lunchtime on Monday.

Among a host of other "space" themed songs, including Bart Howard's Fly Me to the Moon, the main theme from Star Wars and the Imperial March rang out across the lawn.

Many tourists and residents stopped on the lawn and took out their cellphones and iPads to record the musical perform-

ance. Protesters fell silent and a small clap followed the Imperial March.

May 4, which has become International Star Wars Day, began as a pun on the franchise's catchphrase, "May the force be with you," which sounds a lot like "May the fourth be with you."

It's a special day for Derek McDonald, commanding officer of the Capital City Garrison, a group of Ottawa Star Wars fans who create accurate costumes and attend charities and events.

In honour of May 4 and free comic book weekend, mem-

bers were out in full costume at different events throughout the city.

"It's a lot of fun to be able to walk into an event somewhere and see smiles on young kids' faces and smiles on the kids-at-heart's faces as well," said McDonald, who first watched Star Wars with his parents as a young child.

The Ottawa chapter of the group has over 50 members and last year raised over \$12,000 for the Make-a-Wish foundation.

"I think Star Wars just captures my imagination," said McDonald. "There's just something about the classic tale of good versus evil. Everybody remembers the first time they saw Darth Vader on screen."

This year fans have a new movie to look forward to. The seventh installment in the series, The Force Awakens is scheduled for release on Dec. 18.

**“There's just something about the classic tale of good and evil.”**

Derek McDonald

DANDELION FESTIVAL

## Event sponsor set to be replaced

The environmental group Sustainable North Grenville has almost reached its goal of raising enough money through an online crowd-funding campaign to return an energy company's sponsorship of a local music festival.

As of Monday afternoon, the group had raised more than \$4,500 — leaving them only a few hundred dollars shy of their goal of raising \$5,000 by May 8.

The controversy arose after

three musicians set to play Kemptville's annual Dandelion Festival recently announced that they would drop out of the lineup if the money wasn't returned to TransCanada, the company behind the proposed Energy East pipeline.

But festival organizers said it was too late to do without TransCanada's sponsorship, prompting a community crowdsourcing campaign to replace the funding. METRO

CENTREPOINTE THEATRE

## Everything from Tesla-coil rock to crazy tricks in 2015-16 lineup



**Lucy Scholey**  
Metro|Ottawa

Don't be surprised to see a Houdini-style escape from a bear trap held open by a burning rope on the Centrepointe Theatre stage this season.

It sounds like an episode of David Blaine Street Magic, but the up-and-coming illusionist, Darcy Oake, will be the one messing with Ottawa's collective mind this year.

"He's a dark and twisty, very charming guy," said Stephanie Kersey, marketing and development for Centrepointe Theatres. "But he's slated to be the next big thing."

He's one of the "underdogs" Kersey is excited to see in the 2015-2016 lineup at Centrepointe Theatre, which was announced on Monday.

From comedians to kids' shows, here's a sample of the 2015-16 lineup:

### + THE LINEUP

• **Stand-up comedian Howie Mandel**  
Oct. 2, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.  
Tickets: \$77 to \$82

• **Imagination Movers, an Emmy-winning kids show**  
Oct. 25 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.  
Tickets: \$30 to \$35

• **ArcAttack, the rock-meets-Tesla coil band**  
Nov. 6 at 7:30 p.m.  
Tickets: \$35 to \$40

• **Darcy Oake: Edge of Reality**  
Nov. 10 at 8 p.m.  
Tickets: \$55 to \$60

• **Stand-up comedian Ron James**  
Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m.  
Tickets: \$51.25 to \$61.25

• **The Irish Rovers 50th Anniversary Tour**  
Nov. 15 at 7:30 p.m.  
Tickets: \$52 to \$57

• **Okee Dokee Brothers Holiday Hootenany**  
Dec. 19 at 1 p.m.  
Tickets: \$20

• **CBC's The Debaters**  
Feb. 9 and 10 at 7:30 p.m.  
Tickets: \$42 to \$47

• **Stand-up comedian Steven Wright**  
Feb. 21 at 8 p.m.  
Tickets: \$56.25 to \$66.25

• **The Men of the Deep**  
April 5 at 8 p.m.  
Tickets: \$51.25 to \$56.25

• **Classic Albums Live performs Pink Floyd's The Wall**  
March 24 at 8 p.m.  
Tickets: \$48

• **The Very Hungry Caterpillar**  
May 1 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.  
Tickets: \$15 to \$20

Turn the page to help lower high blood pressure.





# Everest climber escapes death

TORONTO

## Base-camp avalanche was adventurer's third close call

It was lunchtime on Everest when Joe Raftis felt the dining tent shake.

The Toronto businessman knew the feeling. He had narrowly cheated death twice in the past two years — first at the 2013 Boston Marathon, which he completed just an hour before terrorists set off pressure-cooker bombs at the finish line; then again in 2014, when his first attempt to scale the world's tallest peak was interrupted by a devastating avalanche that killed 16 Sherpa guides.



**Just 15 meters away, there were deaths and injuries.**

Joe Raftis

This time, hunkered down at the mountain's historically safe base camp just before noon, the possibility of a third close call seemed remote.

"At first, it doesn't register as an earthquake," Raftis, 54, said on Monday. "You just think, are there a bunch of guys outside shaking the tent?"

A sound outside — a "roar" — told him this was more serious.

"So I ran out of the tent, and I saw this wall of snow and ice — an avalanche, coming at me."

Last month's earthquake in Nepal and its aftermath have claimed more than 7,000 lives, including those of 19 climbers on Everest. Raftis was almost part of the grim tally. A day after landing in Toronto, speaking from Europe Bound, the travel gear store he owns on King St., he called himself "lucky."

"I can't believe my luck, three years in a row," he said.

Raftis also had to think fast. He said he had 10 seconds after seeing the avalanche approaching to choose between running and seeking shelter in the tent. He decided to run, and made



Joe Raftis, an employee at Europe Bound, in Toronto, escaped an Everest earthquake for the second straight year and also ran the Boston Marathon in 2013. BERNARD WEIL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

it about 15 metres before stopping and covering his head with his arms. Though he was buried up to his calves, the worst of the pummeling snow hit some 40 metres away.

He and his climbing group were "pretty unscathed."

"It was kind of a narrow miss. Just 15 metres away, there were deaths and injuries," Raftis said.

Within 20 minutes, he was able to call his wife, Shelly, at their north Toronto home using a satellite phone. But the signal

cut out before long. That night, he slept fitfully in the dining tent at base camp, the sound of avalanches continuing to echo down the mountain.

Aftershocks and rockslides continued the next day. As Raftis hiked towards a nearby

village, he saw the extent of the earthquake's devastation.

"Camps completely wiped out, camps completely crushed," he said. "You see a single mitten there, a single jacket there... everything just dispersed everywhere. It was like a junkyard."

He also saw three dead bodies, wrapped in tarps, "just waiting to be airlifted out."

For the next few days, he and his party hiked towards the small Nepalese town of Lukla, hoping to catch a flight bound for Kathmandu. After nearly three days of waiting, Raftis says he bribed an official to get a boarding pass at the tiny, crowded airport.

From Kathmandu he flew to Bangkok, on to London, and then home to Toronto. At 11 a.m. Sunday, he was reunited with his wife and three kids.

An avid climber, Raftis has previously scaled the highest mountain in every continent but South America and Asia. He now says this was his last shot at Everest.

"I'm not going back a third time," he said. "I'm too old for this." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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# Trudeau announces economic platform



**Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau makes a policy announcement Monday during an event at a restaurant in Aylmer, Que.** ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## POLITICS

### Liberal leader plans tax hikes for wealthy, cuts for middle class

Justin Trudeau has unveiled the Liberal alternative to the Harper government's economic plan: hike taxes for the wealthiest one per cent to pay for more generous child benefits and an across-the-board income-tax cut for the middle class.

Under the Liberal proposal announced Monday:

- The 22-per-cent tax rate for anyone with a taxable annual income between \$44,701 and \$89,401 would be cut to 20.5 per cent.
- A new tax bracket of 33 per cent would be imposed on those with taxable incomes over \$200,000 a year. The current top bracket of 29 per cent would continue to apply to those

earning between \$138,586 and \$200,000.

A Trudeau government would also scrap Prime Minister Stephen Harper's universal child-care benefit and roll together two other existing child benefits into a single, more generous, monthly, tax-free "Canada child benefit." According to the Liberals, all families with kids under 18 and an annual income below \$150,000, or 90 per cent of families, would receive more under Trudeau's plan.

Monday's announcement is a reply to last month's Conservative pre-election budget, which pivots around twin measures to allow parents with children under 18 to split their income for tax purposes and to expand and enrich the universal child care benefit.

Trudeau has promised to scrap the \$2-billion parental income-splitting scheme, which critics have said will benefit less than 15 per cent of families, primarily the wealthiest. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Bail for Khadr a threat to transfers: Feds

Granting bail to former Guantanamo Bay prisoner Omar Khadr while he appeals his war-crimes conviction in the United States threatens the entire system of international prisoner transfers, the federal government argues in new court filings.

The claim comes in material filed late Monday as part of Ottawa's 11th-hour attempt to block Khadr's release from prison — which could come as early as Tuesday evening.

"A lack of clarity in the international transfer process may jeopardize the system as a whole," the government states in documents obtained by The Canadian Press.

"(Khadr's) release unsettles the foundation of this system by introducing uncertainty and a lack of control over the manner in which Canadian offenders' sentences are enforced."

Despite having presented no such evidence at his bail hearing, the government also now argues that allowing Khadr out — given his long incarceration — presents a risk that is contrary to the public interest.

It does not elaborate on the nature of the risk but notes he has applied for parole in June.

**“Springing (Khadr) into the community ... poses an undue risk.”**

The federal government, in court filings

On Monday, the government also filed its formal notice of appeal of the April 24 decision by Justice June Ross of the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench granting Khadr bail. It wants the stay pending disposition of the case.

The last-ditch stay application, slated to be heard by a single Court of Appeal justice on Tuesday morning, says the government "will suffer irreparable harm" if the Toronto-born Khadr, now 28, is released.

In a statement, a Khadr support group denounced the government's "unrelenting vilification" of the prisoner and its "knee-jerk" appeal of every court decision favourable to him.

"The rights, freedom and liberties of all Canadians are diminished by the actions of this government," Free Omar Khadr Now said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## TORTURE

### Defence's information-sharing documents not being disclosed

The Defence Department is refusing to release the text of a ministerial directive that sets out how the Canadian Forces can seek and share information from foreign partners even when it may put someone at risk of torture.

The Canadian Press requested the 2013 directive one year ago under the Access to Information Act and just this month received a draft copy of the document —

marked unclassified — with key elements censored.

However, a classified April 2013 covering letter says the planned directive was based on a government-wide framework that guides Canadian security agencies when seeking or sharing information puts someone in foreign custody at serious risk of being abused. The framework for addressing risks in foreign information-sharing applies to De-

fence, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, the RCMP, the Canada Border Services Agency and the Communications Security Establishment, the electronic spy service.

The federal policy has drawn sharp criticism from human rights advocates and opposition MPs, who say it condones torture, contrary to international law and Canada's United Nations commitments. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## PM pays tribute to fallen soldiers

Prime Minister Stephen Harper spoke Monday about the great sacrifices demanded in war and how some things are worth dying for.

These notions were deeply personal to the Second World War veterans who listened on the neatly mowed grounds of one of Canada's more heart-breaking military cemeteries.

The graveyard holds the remains of 1,350 Canadian soldiers, killed in the waning days and weeks of the war as Nazi Germany went through its final, convulsive death throes.

They are among the more than 7,600 Canadians who died to free Holland.

## + MEETING

When Harper met Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, they talked about fighting the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant and maintaining a firm position on Russia.

Harper remembered them as heroes.

"The heroes who liberated the Netherlands ... understood that when there arises a great evil, a threat to all the things that define our existence as a free and just people, such enemies must be confronted," he said, at the

first of two commemoration he'll attend while in the Netherlands.

"But only the veterans with us today can really know the fear and desperation they must have sometimes felt or the courage and resolve it took to press forward ... And why? Because they knew, they understood deeply, that there are some things on earth worth fighting for, worth dying for."

Linking the horrors of the past with brutal reality of today was persistent theme, not only for the prime minister, but for his Dutch hosts too, at the trilingual service just outside this sleepy village, 59 kilometres northeast of Arnhem. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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**ITALY SHIPS RESCUE THOUSANDS OF MIGRANTS AT SEA NEAR LIBYA** A child blows a kiss as migrants disembark from the Italian Navy frigate Bersagliere at the Reggio Calabria harbour, Monday. Italian rescue ships brought migrants by the thousands to Italy's southern ports, including a baby born aboard a navy vessel, as crowded shelters in Sicily and on the mainland struggled Monday to find room for them. In a three-day period ending Sunday, 6,771 survivors were rescued in the seas north of Libya from overcrowded rubber dinghies and unseaworthy fishing boats sent out by smuggling rings, the coast guard reported Monday. Ten bodies were found Sunday on boats or in the sea. ADRIANA SAPONE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Gunmen ID'd in attack outside cartoon event

DALLAS

## One man well-known to FBI

Since at least 2007, the FBI has been able to recognize the voice of Elton Simpson — one of the men suspected in the Texas shootings outside a contest featuring cartoons of the Muslim Prophet Muhammad.

Agents recorded the young man from Phoenix talking about fighting nonbelievers for Allah. About plans to travel to South Africa and link up with "brothers" in Somalia. About using school as a cover story for travelling overseas.

Simpson was arrested in 2010, one day before authorities say he planned to leave for South Africa. But despite more than 1,500 hours of recorded conversations, the government prosecuted him on only one minor charge — lying to a federal agent. Years spent investigating Simpson for terrorism ties resulted in three years of probation and \$600 in fines and court fees.

Then, on Sunday, two men

whom authorities identified as Simpson and Nadir Soofi opened fire in a Dallas suburb on a security officer stationed outside the contest. The officials spoke only on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the investigation by name.

The deliberately provocative contest had been expected to draw outrage from the Muslim community. According to mainstream Islamic tradition, any physical depiction of the Prophet Muhammad — even a respectful one — is considered blasphemous, and drawings similar to those featured at the Texas event have sparked violence around the world.

Simpson and Soofi were wearing body armour, and one shot the guard in the leg. A police officer returned fire and struck both men, killing them. The guard was treated for his injury at a hospital and released.

Simpson, described as quiet and devout, had been on the radar of law enforcement because of his social media presence, but authorities did not have an indication that he was

plotting an attack, said one federal official familiar with the investigation. Less was known about Soofi who appeared to have never been prosecuted in federal court, according to a search of court records.

Simpson had worshipped at the Islamic Community Center of Phoenix for about a decade, but he quit showing up over the past two or three months, the president of the mosque told The Associated Press. A convert to Islam, Simpson first attracted the FBI's attention in 2006 because of his ties to Hassan Abu Jihad, a former U.S. Navy sailor who had been arrested in Phoenix and was ultimately convicted of terrorism-related charges, according to court records.

In the fall of that year, the FBI asked one of its informants, Dabla Deng, a Sudanese immigrant, to befriend Simpson and ask for advice about Islam. Over the next few years, Deng would tape his conversations with Simpson with a hidden recording device accumulating more than 1,500 hours of conversations, according to court records.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECONSTRUCTION

## Nepal calls for more international aid

Nepal's government will need immense international support as the Himalayan nation begins turning its attention toward reconstruction in the coming weeks, in the wake of the devastating April earthquake, a top official said Monday.

Nepal is one of the world's poorest nations, and its economy, largely based on tourism, has been crippled by the earthquake, which left more than 7,300 people dead. While there are no clear estimates yet of how

much it will cost to rebuild, it will certainly be enormously expensive.

"In two to three weeks a serious reconstruction package needs to be developed, where we'll need enormous help from the international community," said Information Minister Minendra Rijal.

He also said foreign rescue workers were welcome in Nepal, saying they could remain as long as they are needed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EVEREST

## Sherpas refuse to rebuild trek route

Sherpas in Nepal have refused to rebuild a climbing route on Mount Everest that was destroyed by an earthquake-triggered avalanche more than a week ago, a decision likely to end this year's climbing season.

Gyanendra Shrestha, an official at Nepal's Mountaineering Department, said the Sherpas informed the office on Monday that they were not going to rebuild the route because of safety and time reasons.

It would be the second con-

secutive year that the climbing season has been called off because of deaths on the world's highest peak. The season was cancelled last year after an avalanche killed 16 Sherpa guides.

Mountaineering teams have until the end of this month to climb the peak, but without the route being fixed it is not possible for them. The Sherpas play a crucial role by bringing the ladders, ropes and equipment needed to clear the trail.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### IN BRIEF

#### Taliban 'welcome' peace efforts after Qatar talks

Taliban militants who have been waging war on the Afghan government for more than a decade on Monday expressed a willingness to soften their position on a range of issues, an apparent shift that could eventually lead to peace talks. But despite those positive signs following two days of informal talks in Qatar, a wave of Taliban attacks targeting police checkpoints late Sunday night in the remote Afghan province of Badakhshan, killed at least 16 policemen.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

#### Civilians killed in U.S.-led strikes on ISIL-held village in Syria: Rights group

A Syrian rights group reported Monday that the death toll of civilians purportedly killed in airstrikes by the U.S.-led coalition on a village controlled by ISIL in Syria has risen to 64, including 31 children, as the U.S. military said it is assessing whether to launch a formal investigation into the claim. U.S. Army Col. Steve Warren, a Pentagon spokesman, said that so far there was no information to indicate there were civilians present in the village.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Labour gets Brand endorsement



Comedian turned political activist Russell Brand has changed his mind and is no longer urging people not to vote in Thursday's general election. Instead, Brand on Monday used his YouTube channel to urge his more than 1 million subscribers to back the Labour Party's Ed Miliband.

JOEL RYAN/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

## U.K. ELECTION

### Comedian reverses stance on non-voting, backs Miliband

British comedian-turned-political activist Russell Brand has changed his mind and is no longer urging people not to vote in Thursday's general election — now he wants them to vote for Labour.

Brand used his YouTube channel Monday to urge his more than 1 million subscribers to back Labour Party Leader Ed Miliband, saying the Conservative Party led by Prime Minister David Cameron must be stopped.

The last-minute conversion may influence young voters who have read Brand's best-selling book *Revolution* and embraced his YouTube complaints about big business and banks having too much power.

The long-haired comedian, who has starred in several films, has campaigned for the rights of London tenants and com-

plained about heartless capitalism. He interviewed Miliband last week for his YouTube channel — prompting Cameron to label Brand “a joke” and to condemn Miliband for appearing with the bawdy comedian.

Brand struck back on YouTube.

“David Cameron might think I’m a joke. But I don’t think there’s anything funny about what the Conservative Party has been doing to this country, and we have to stop them,” he said.

Brand said in his YouTube endorsement that Miliband wouldn’t change things overnight but would listen to peoples’ complaints. He also tweeted the video to his more than 9 million Twitter followers.

Far-right UK Independence Party Leader Nigel Farage, fighting for a place in Parliament, seemed unimpressed by Brand’s

backing of Labour.

“I’m very pleased Russell Brand hasn’t endorsed me,” he told BBC Radio.

Miliband’s Labour Party also

received the endorsement of bestselling celebrity TV cook Delia Smith, who enjoys a national following. Campaigning with Miliband in the seaside city of Brighton, she said she feels the Labour party will protect Britain’s National Health Service.



... I don't think there's anything funny about what the Conservative Party has been doing to this country, and we have to stop them.

Russell Brand

The vote Thursday is expected to be close. Neither of the two main parties — Conservatives and Labour — is expected to win an absolute majority in Parliament because of the growth of smaller parties like the Scottish National Party and UKIP. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## POLITICS

### Prospects dark for Lib Dems

At Britain’s last election campaign, he was hailed as the most popular party leader since Winston Churchill, an unexpected star who upstaged the two dominant parties. Some even wondered whether he was the British Obama.

Nick Clegg’s meteoric rise transformed him from a relatively obscure leader of the left-of-centre Liberal Democrats — Britain’s third party and perennial “also-rans” — into deputy prime minister.

Five years on, he may be headed for the political graveyard — paying for his decision to enter a marriage of convenience with the ruling Conservative Party.

The Lib Dems are bracing themselves for a disastrous election, and Clegg, 48, faces the humiliating prospect of losing his own seat in Parliament. Many have not forgiven Clegg



Deputy Prime Minister and Liberal Democrat Party Leader Nick Clegg speaks in London on Monday.

STEVE PARSONS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

for breaking his pre-election pledge to oppose any increase in university tuition fees. Just months after the 2010 election, the Conservative-led government that he joined announced those fees would triple to 9,000 pounds (\$13,600) per year.

“He didn’t stand by his guns. Now he’s gone to government, people have seen the other side of him,” said Tony Lamb, a 57-year-old butcher in the constituency of Sheffield Hallam, where Clegg is fighting to keep a seat he’s safely held for two terms. “People think he’s just somebody’s puppet, making up the numbers. That’s all he’s done.”

That harsh judgment sums

up the views of many voters who have turned their backs on Clegg, whose fall from grace has been as spectacular as his rise was sudden.

Clegg readily concedes that his compromises in government have come at a cost. He even issued a video saying “sorry” for his tuition fee debacle, which went viral as a musical parody. But he insists that his party is still best placed to hold the balance of power for a second time. That is less likely than in 2010, but still possible — another five years of a Conservative-Lib Dem coalition is considered one of the potential outcomes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

“Now (Clegg has) gone to government, people have seen the other side of him.”

Tony Lamb

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# Watchdogs keeping eye on Apple's Beats

## STREAMING MUSIC

### Regulators fear aggressive tactics against competition

Apple appears to have raised the ire of anti-trust authorities as it prepares for the launch of its Beats music streaming service, according to reports.

Both the European Union's Competition Committee and the U.S. Department of Justice are reportedly watching the Cupertino, Calif.-based company, as it may be using aggressive

tactics with record labels to hamper the competition as it prepares to enter the market.

With the launch of Beats Music expected this summer, Apple is apparently trying to pressure music labels to not renew Spotify's licence to stream music through its free tier.

While Spotify has 60 million users, only 15 million are paid users of its \$10 a month service.

The Verge website reported that the according to multiple sources, the U.S. Department of Justice is tracking the company, which follows a New York Post report that European Union's Competition Commission has

launched a probe into the company's business practices. The New York Post says that Apple wanted to charge less than \$10 a month for its impending streaming service to undercut the competition, but couldn't make the pricing work.

The Verge also reported a source saying that Apple offered to pay Universal Music group the equivalent of what it gets from YouTube Licensing fee if it stopped putting its music up on the service.

YouTube is still where the majority of people go online to listen to music, and it has also launched a paid music tier service.

Ahead of Apple's Beats launch, Spotify is offering promotions in Canada in the hopes of growing its user base. The company is offering three months of its premium tier for 99 cents a month. Wireless company Fido is offering two years of Spotify premium for free as part of its Pulse plan promotions.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## + SPOTIFY WOOLING CANADIANS

### City-themed playlists

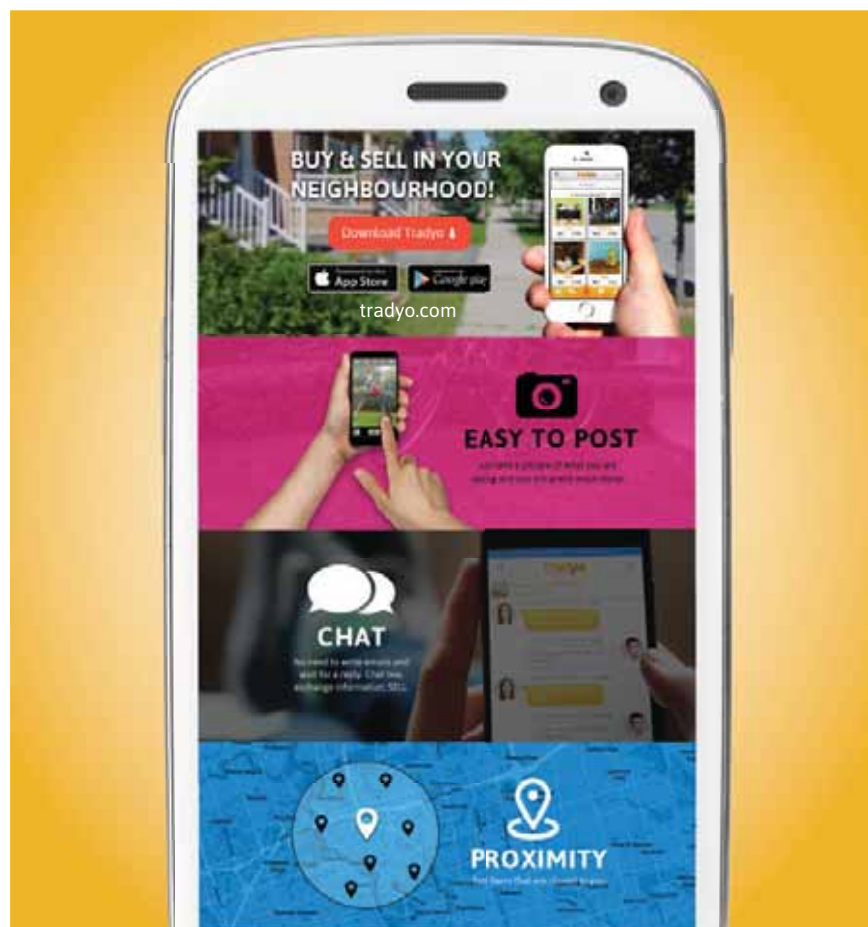
Marketing Magazine reported that, in a bid to be seen as catering to local tastes, Spotify has unveiled a number of new Canadian city-themed playlists, in-

cluding Toronto.

Spotify created these playlists using the data it has showing what's popular in each of those cities, and added in tracks suggested by local influencers.



**LAS VEGAS AGING RIVIERA AGING NO MORE** A sign thanks customers outside the Riviera Hotel and Casino on the Las Vegas Strip, which shut down at noon Monday as the last few gamblers tried their luck on slots. The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, which bought the building where Liberace and Frank Sinatra once were headliners, plans to tear it down and expand the Las Vegas Convention Center to the Strip. JOHN LOCHER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Seniors filing for insolvency: Report

Seniors and those approaching retirement are making up a growing proportion of those filing for insolvency in Ontario and have bigger debts compared to younger people, a report said.

And while credit card debt makes up the largest portion for them, payday loans are a growing concern for seniors, said Doug Hoyes, co-founder of bankruptcy trustee firm Hoyes, Michalos & Associates Inc. which did the report.

Hoyes said the number of people filing for insolvency has been trending down in recent years, but use of payday and fast

cash style loans is on the rise.

Seniors were less likely to use payday loans at just nine per cent of those over 60 filing for insolvency with one, but those that did owed \$3,693 on average.

Hoyes said some of the growth in seniors filing for insolvency is due to more people reaching retirement as baby boomers get older. And while for some that has meant selling their home for a big profit and a comfortable retirement, for others, medical bills, job loss or divorce have crippled them financially, he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## McDonald's mapping out turnaround plan

McDonald's wants to simplify, simplify, simplify — but also add a bunch of choices for customers to avoid growing stale.

CEO Steve Easterbrook said Monday that he will strip away the bureaucracy at McDonald's so the company can move more nimbly to keep up with changing tastes.

The overhaul comes after McDonald's saw its profit drop 15 per cent last year.

To help make the right chan-

ges more quickly, McDonald's said it's restructuring its business into four units.

McDonald's also said Monday that 90 per cent of its more than 36,200 restaurants around the world will be franchised over the next four years. That's up from 81 per cent, and will mean the company will rely more heavily on franchising fees and move away from the daily work of running restaurants. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## IN BRIEF

### Buffett bets on IBM

Investor Warren Buffett says he remains confident in IBM's future, and his Berkshire Hathaway added to its stake in the technology firm earlier this year.

Buffett says he believes IBM will be making more money 10 years from now than it does today. Berkshire owns about 9 per cent of IBM's stock now.

Buffett says he thinks IBM will fare well in cloud computing and corporate services because of the level of security it offers with its products.

Buffett appeared on CNBC Monday morning after Berkshire Hathaway's annual meeting.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## market minute

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <b>DOLLAR</b><br>82.70¢ (+0.44¢)         |
|  | <b>TSX</b><br>15,367.47 (+27.70)         |
|  | <b>OIL</b><br>\$58.93 US (-22¢)          |
|  | <b>GOLD</b><br>\$1,186.80 US (+ \$12.30) |

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## ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

### Why would anyone go to a play about residential schools?

You might think you know about residential schools.

You've seen them in headlines since the Truth and Reconciliation Commission began unwrapping the individual horrors of the government's attempts to destroy indigenous culture. You know about the abuses, the tearing apart of families, the ripple effects of alcoholism, the violence and the poverty.

You know who was the victim and who was to blame. So you'd know what to expect if you went to see a play about it. And then, if that play is *God and the Indian*, you'd be disappointed.

In the play, now running in Toronto and headed to Vancouver later in the month, Johnny Indian confronts the priest she believed raped her as a child. And he denies it.

The priest, George King, and Johnny each battle to prove the other wrong. The audience acts like a jury, but if pressed we would declare ourselves hung. No one leaves the theatre innocent.

"Very few characters in history who are evil think they're evil," playwright Drew Haydon Taylor told me over the phone. He was busy preparing a dinner of stuffed peppers, "a traditional Ojibwe dish."

Yes, that's a joke. Taylor is a funny man, often writing plays and satires that capture what he calls indigenous "survival humour." As an elder

once told him, "Humour is the WD-40 of healing for native people."

It is also present in Johnny. "I guess it helps when you are the same race as God," she quips in the play. Another time she mentions getting pregnant with a man named Dick: "That's what happens with Dicks," she says.

**The audience acts like a jury, but if pressed we would declare ourselves hung. No one leaves the theatre innocent.**

Taylor's comedic plays are subversive, he argues, because "the vast majority of my native characters aren't dysfunctional enough for mainstream audiences."

Even Johnny — homeless, mentally ill and physically unwell — is far more than a victim. But God and the Indian is subversive, too, in all the questions that it does not answer.

The trick of this play isn't what it tells you about residential schools — it's what it doesn't say about who is to blame. There is no justice. Despite her pleas, Johnny doesn't get a confession. Despite his denial, we don't know if the priest is innocent.

## the big question

# How old is old enough for kids to go out on their own?

**Whether it's playing at the park or spending money at the Lego store, a bit of independence is good for the mental and physical health of kids age nine to 11, said Ryerson University professor Raktim Mitra. He studied 1,000 Grade 5 and 6 students wearing exercise monitors for a week in the Toronto area. Kids allowed to explore on their own were 14 to 19 per cent more active than those constantly supervised. Most provinces don't have a specific law, so it's up to parents to decide when a child is mature enough for solo adventures.**

## Connect the lonely VIA station to Ottawa's heart

### YOUR RIDE

Kathryn Hunt



The main Ottawa VIA Rail station is a little out of the way. Although it's VIA's third busiest station (in terms of ridership), you can't just walk out the door into the heart of the city, as you could in Montreal or Toronto. In Ottawa, the "central" train station is off to the east of the city, in what amounts to an industrial park.

It wasn't always like that. From 1912 to 1966, trains used to arrive at Union Station (now the Government Conference Centre), right on Wellington at Elgin, giving new arrivals to Ottawa a view of some of the grandest buildings in the city: the Chateau Laurier (built at the

same time) and Parliament Hill. In 1966, the construction of Colonel By Drive replaced the rail lines, and the station moved to its current location on Tremblay Road.

Now, the only transit link to downtown is a less-than-welcoming Transitway station outside the building (and no bus tickets for sale, though Presto users from Toronto/Hamilton can use their passes and you can pay cash fare on the buses). It's hard not to come away with the message that you should call a cab or a friend with a car to get downtown from the station rather than take transit. And that makes the station feel that much more remote from the city.

But there are changes coming, and some of them might — in the long run, anyway — reduce the VIA station's sense of isolation.

The Transitway is being shut down between Blair and Campus stations on June 28, and the connection between public transit and the VIA Rail station will be revamped.

**All this may do a lot to give people arriving in Ottawa the sense that they've arrived in a city.**

Once the O-Train Confederation Line opens in 2018, the new Tremblay Station will connect visitors coming in on VIA trains with the light-rail system — and will sell transit tickets and day passes. Plans for Tremblay Station include a public plaza to accommodate special-event crowds at the baseball

stadium, retail areas in the concourse and possibly more direct access to the Ottawa Train Yards shopping area.

All this, maybe even with extra signage to direct people toward the O-Train and help them find their way downtown, may do a lot to liven up the VIA station and give people arriving in Ottawa the sense that they've arrived in a city and not some industrial park.

It's not a downtown vista but it might be the next best option.

**Kathryn Hunt** @k8thek8 is a writer, editor of Centretown BUZZ, storyteller, poet, cycling blogger, rock climber, mysterious techno vixen (confirmed) and geek. Not necessarily in that order. You can read her cycling blog at [theincidentalcyclist.blogspot.ca](http://theincidentalcyclist.blogspot.ca).

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**PHILOSOPHER CAT**  
by Jason Logan







## Follow the Gold Record Road

Blues. Jazz. Country. Rock 'n' roll. Gospel. Southern Gospel. Cajun-zydeco. Soul/R&B. Bluegrass. Nine of America's most well-known music genres now have their own road map. Led by Nashville preservationist Aubrey Preston, a group of historians and music lovers came up with the Americana Music Triangle

The Associated Press

Stretching from Nashville to Memphis to New Orleans — and encompassing points in between — the Americana Music Triangle includes locations in the Deep South that helped birth of the musical genres, from Clarksdale, Miss., the home of blues masters Muddy Waters and John Lee Hooker, to Muscle Shoals, Ala., site of the famed music studio where Aretha Franklin, the Rolling Stones and many others recorded songs.

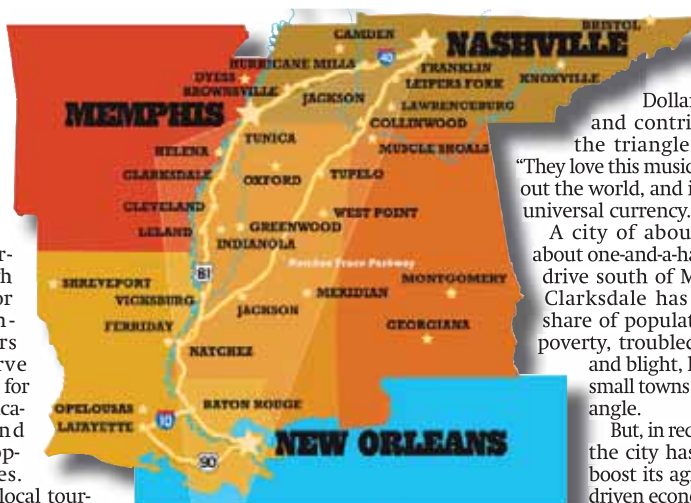
Philanthropist Aubrey Preston hopes the triangle gives travelling music lovers, both foreign and domestic, a multi-state,

Internet-based, interactive guide of the cradle of America's music, while also spurring enough interest for community leaders to preserve these spots for future educational and tourism opportunities.

State and local tourism officials hope much-needed dollars flow into their towns from travellers with cash to spend on restaurants, music shows, shops, and even gas stations and car washes.

"We're giving an anchor, a cloud of information ... that's easily accessible and connects places, stories, people and music to information that people can get from any place in the world," said Preston, whose last-minute purchase of Nashville's legendary RCA Studio A in October 2014 saved it from being torn down.

Events scheduled throughout this week in six cities will launch the Americana Music Triangle.



CONTRIBUTED

Historian Colin Escott says the triangle accurately spotlights locations that will draw people to the South: the jazz halls of New Orleans, the rock 'n' roll and soul studios of Memphis, the cotton plantations of the Mississippi Delta.

"People do seem to want to touch something that's real," said Escott, co-writer of the book

and musical Million Dollar Quartet and contributor to the triangle project. "They love this music throughout the world, and it is like a universal currency."

A city of about 17,200 about one-and-a-half hours' drive south of Memphis, Clarksdale has seen its share of population loss, poverty, troubled schools and blight, like other small towns in the triangle.

But, in recent years, the city has tried to boost its agriculture-driven economy with tourist spending and the sales taxes it generates. Downtown has seen an increase in restaurants and accommodations like loft apartments, and population appears to be growing. Tourists from overseas are making more frequent treks to Clarksdale, according to Mayor Bill Luckett and co-owner of Ground Zero Blues Club.

"Pulling this project off will

**“People do seem to want to touch something that's real. They love this music throughout the world, and it is like a universal currency.”**

Historian Colin Escott

be a tremendous help to this whole region," Luckett said. "It puts money in this economy that wasn't here before."

Luckett says promoting tourism does not exploit the city's more disadvantaged residents, some of whom may resent that so much attention is being paid to tourists while they struggle.

"There are some people who are going to express some resentment. I read it, I hear it," Luckett said. "Frankly, it's unfair and untrue."

Tourism and civic leaders in each location are encouraged to direct tourists to other spots on the trail, even if they are in another state. This sets the pro-

ject apart from government-run initiatives that won't promote tourism experiences outside their purview.

The project's supporters hope that, as more people are drawn to these locations, governments, philanthropists and non-profits will move to preserve the sites and increase opportunities for musicians.

"If you have more regular (visitor) traffic, then you can start to have more music," said Roger Stolle, owner of the Cat Head Delta Blues & Folk Art store in Clarksdale. "It not only means that venue is going to be there for a long time, but it gives a reason for musicians to be there."



Omar Gordon, 24, plays the guitar outside the Cat Head Delta Blues & Folk Art store in Clarksdale, Miss., the home of Muddy Waters and John Lee Hooker. ADRIAN SAINZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## The actual business of music

LIVE

### The side of Canadian Music Week fans never see

#### SOUND CHECK

Alan Cross



A giant chunk of the Canadian music industry (and chunks of the industry from the U.S., the U.K., Europe and Australasia) is now arriving in Toronto for Canadian Music Week, the largest conference of its kind in the country and one of the biggest in the world.

There are two sides to CMW: the outward fan-facing experience, and then the industrial-grade experience which is directed at insiders from radio, TV, record labels, music retail, promoters, managers and the rest of the star-making machinery behind the popular song.

It's this second part — the stuff the public never gets to hear about — in which I'm most interested. So much business

gets done at the bars and over dinner. Relationships begin with accidental meetings. And then there are all the discussion sessions that take place as part of the industry concert. These talks — scheduled as conferences within the conference — will help shape the future of music as we know it.

For example, on Thursday there's going to be a discussion of radio's role in the connected car featuring input from broadcasters, auto dealers and technologists. A few hours later, I'm moderating a panel called Radio of the Future, which will include the president of iHeartRadio in the U.S. and the head of music for the BBC. How will AM/FM radio evolve in the next

few years? These people are leading that charge.

There will be sessions on advancements in understanding social media as it relates to music, the future of digital music and the rise of streaming music services, and so much more.

And then there are the awards: The Crystals (an industry-only event that honours the best radio commercials), the Canadian Radio Music Awards (another industry-only event), the Indie Awards (open to the public) and the Canadian Music Industry Awards.

It all starts tomorrow and won't stop until some time late Sunday. I already have a headache.

## ALAN'S CMW PICKS

**FIDLAR:** I've been a fan of this L.A. bunch since their single Cheap Beer.



**METZ:** Another band with an ALL CAPS name. Former Polaris Music Prize darlings.



**Zoobombs:** If the Flaming Lips were from Japan, they'd be called Zoobombs. If that makes sense to you, you know what to expect.



## IN BRIEF

**Sleepwalking runs in families**

Did you sleepwalk when you were a kid? Still do it occasionally? If so, chances are your children will do it, too.

A new study adds support to the growing belief that behaviours like sleepwalking and sleep terrors run in families.

Researchers at Montreal's Centre for Advanced Research in Sleep Medicine report that the offspring of parents with a history of sleepwalking are between three and seven times more likely to sleepwalk than other children.

The likelihood rises if both parents are or were sleepwalkers.

The findings are published in the journal JAMA Pediatrics.

AFP

**Genetically modified rice could prevent birth defects**

Bolstering rice with a gene to produce more folate, or vitamin B9, could ward off birth defects, according to a new study.

An estimated 50 to 70 per cent of all neural tube defects occur due to maternal folate deficiency, according to the Belgian research team.

The researchers suggest their folate biofortified rice (FBR) would be consumed in regions that lack the vitamin, such as Balrampur, India and Shanxi, China.

The idea of fortifying food with folic acid isn't new. Yet around the world, women are not taking enough folic acid and one study says that two thirds of U.K. women bypass recommended pre-pregnancy doses.

According to the paper, 1,000 pregnancies affected by spina bifida occur in the U.K. per year. AFP

# The agony of eggs-tacy

## DATING

## Reader tries to decipher the meaning of brunch post one-night stand

## URBAN ETIQUETTE

Ellen Vanstone



Dear Ellen

A year after a breakup with my common-law partner, I finally made the decision to start dating. I met this nice guy and we had a good time. Maybe I was a bit too eager, you know, after not dating for a year, but I ended up "sleeping over."

The next morning we went for brunch together. Having been out of the dating scene for a few years, I wasn't sure about the etiquette.

Who should pay in a situation like this? Do you go Dutch or does it mean something else if one of you picks

up the bill? Also, is brunch just a way he was able to get me out of his apartment (maybe this was a one-night stand), or was it a signal that he's interested and wanted to spend some more time getting to know me more?

Just trying to understand the nuances of modern dating.

— Christopher, Toronto

Dear Christopher,

Let's address the easy part first: Who pays? Answer: You should offer to pay if you did the inviting; offer to go Dutch if he did.

As for everything else (i.e., "is it brunch or true love?"), many advice-givers will tell you: "Don't over-analyze" or "Take it slow and see what happens" or "Careful not to set yourself up for massive disappointment" — but rest assured, I am not one of them.

I like to give advice a person can actually follow, like:

"Spend every waking minute obsessing about how the date went," and "Check your phone repeatedly for any sign of communication," and "Pour your heart into an excruciatingly



If a one-night stand has brunch with you the next day, does this mean it's true love? ISTOCK

detailed romantic fantasy about the two of you."

The thing is, Christopher, if you like this guy, you're going to do all this crazy stuff, anyway, so why waste time pretending you're not? See? My brilliant advice has just saved you hours of pointless

self-chastisement, which you can now spend in a dreamy delusional haze that hurts no one except, well ...

OK, yes, you probably are setting yourself up for massive disappointment. But suffering is a part of life! And this kind of luxurious emotional agony

is a privilege at any age.

The only real downside is that it may temporarily skew your musical tastes (Someone Like You on endless loop, anyone?).

In the meantime, the pre-agony ecstasy is there for the taking, my man. Go for it.

## RESEARCH

## Eat an apple, buy more healthy foods

Eating an apple upon entering the grocery store may prompt shoppers to buy 25 per cent more fruits and vegetables, according to a new study from the Cornell Food & Brand Lab.

"Having a small healthy snack before shopping can put us in a healthier mindset and steer us towards making better food choices," says Aner Tal, PhD of Cornell.

Tal and co-author Brian Wansink conducted three ex-

periments to make their case, the first of which involved 120 shoppers. They were given at random an apple, a cookie or nothing at all as they arrived at the grocery store.

Tracking their purchases, the researchers concluded that those who had eaten an apple bought 28 per cent more fruits and vegetables than those who had consumed a cookie and 25 per cent more fruits and vegetables than those who were not



Eating an apple encourages shoppers to buy 25 per cent more fruits and vegetables at the grocery store. ISTOCK

given a snack.

In the second experiment, 56 participants who were given either a real cookie or a real apple to eat and then shown 20 images containing two prod-

ucts each.

They were asked to select which one they would purchase and each image featured one healthy item and one unhealthy item, calorie count be-

ing the distinguishing factor.

Results were similar to the first experiment, with the cookie eaters opting for a disproportionate amount of unhealthy items. AFP



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# Princess' life won't be fairy tale

## ROYAL FEMALES



Kate Middleton



Princess Charlotte



Princess Diana



Beatrice and Eugenie



Queen Elizabeth II and Princess Margaret

### ROYAL BIRTH

## Despite progress, Charlotte will still face sexism

William and **Kate's** new daughter is the first British princess who won't face royal discrimination because she's a girl, but her life won't be without challenges.

Thanks to a change in the centuries-old rules of royal succession, if **Princess Charlotte** has a younger brother, he won't overtake her in line to the throne.

But in a world where girls are encouraged to embrace pretty-in-pink princess imagery from birth, the royal daughter born Saturday is bound to face a level of scrutiny her elder sibling Prince George won't have to worry about.

Claudia Joseph, author of *William and Kate's Britain*, said that as a future king, third-in-line-to-the-throne George can expect a life of "duty and responsibility."

His sister "will have a more carefree life, but on the other hand, we live in a world obsessed with looks. Nearly every woman nowadays is constantly under scrutiny."

The experience of Kate — and, even more, of the baby's late grandmother, **Princess Diana** — suggests the level of interest the princess can expect.

Every outfit, every hairstyle, will be recorded, commented on, copied.

Royal historian Robert Lacey said princesses face a different burden than princes.

"There's so much enduring sexist comment," he said. "It remains legitimate for the media — and social media even more — to comment on women's dress and appearance."

"And the coverage veers so precipitously from adulation to scorn. **Beatrice and Eugenie** are examples of that."

Prince Andrew's daughters became media figures of fun for wearing elaborate fascinators to Kate and William's wedding in 2011.

Even her name, announced Monday by her parents, was the subject of much speculation.

The royal birth was greeted with an explosion of pink, as Tower Bridge and other London landmarks were bathed in magenta light.

Not everyone was delighted. "Are we really still in the 1950s with gender norms?"

tweeted Laura Sheldon, 16.

"I don't like the way the media are emphasizing the baby is a girl and companies exploiting this in their marketing," Sheldon said in an email. "The whole 'pink for girls' and 'blue for boys' thing is so outdated and too conservative for what should be a progressive society."

Still, society has changed enormously in the past few decades — and so has the royal family.

For centuries, the law gave preference to male heirs, so a first-born princess would be leapfrogged in the succession by a younger brother. As a result, there have been some 35 kings of England since the Norman Conquest in 1066, but only seven queens.

In 2011, the leaders of Britain and the 15 former colonies that have the Queen as their head of state agreed to establish new rules giving female children equal status with males in the order of succession.

It took several years to amend the statutes, some of them centuries old. The Succession to the Crown Act came into effect in March, just in time for the new princess.

She becomes fourth in line to the throne, pushing Prince Harry down to fifth. The change means she'll keep her position even if she has a younger brother, though if George has children one day, they'll move ahead of her. It's a small step, perhaps, but it symbolizes a more modern, equal-opportunity monarchy.

While royal duty, celebrity, and questions of security will affect the princess' career choices, there's nothing to stop her from joining the military, as her father and uncle did, or becoming a search-and-rescue helicopter pilot like her dad.

"I think the royal family has changed a lot over the last few decades, and William and Kate are very 21st century," Joseph said. William is a more engaged, hands-on parent than his father, Prince Charles, or ancestors.

**Queen Elizabeth II and her sister Princess Margaret** were educated at home, but the baby princess can expect to mingle with non-royals at an ordinary — though expensive — school, attend university and have a career.

"I'm sure (the princess) will inherit Kate's evident love of photography and art. And she has an older brother — I'm sure she's going to love 'boys' toys,' too." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Royal fans hold up a sign reading "it's a princess" as they celebrate following the announcement of the birth of Princess Charlotte. Some in Britain have criticized the level of gender stereotyping with the royal birth. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

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## Still hungry after 31 years

### KAYAKING

#### David Ford, 48, continues to paddle with funding barrier

It's been five years since David Ford was completely stripped of his Canadian sport funding amid not-so-subtle hints he was too old.

He's 48 now, and the Olympic dream still burns bright in Ford, Canada's best whitewater kayaker for the better part of three decades.

And why not? "There's a bias in people's minds that age is a number that stops you from performing," Ford said. "I don't think you can really look at it that specifically."

Ford prefers to look at other numbers, like the ones in the weight room. The five-time Olympian can do weighted chin-ups with 112.5 pounds hanging from his waist. He can bench pull — face down, pulling upward — 315 pounds. Both are at least 10-pound improvements over what he lifted in 1999, when he was the world champion.

"When I was younger, my dad also did a bit of racing. I remember being 16, my dad was

36 years old, and I remember thinking 'I hope he's OK, he shouldn't be doing that sort of thing at that age.'" Ford said laughing. "Now I'm 12 years past that day, and still feel amazing."

"The only price I've paid I feel like is injuries, obviously. Also when I get tired, I can't fake it anymore. But other than that, I feel better now than I did when I was 25. Sports science has come so far ... I've learned so much more as an athlete that I can apply now that I feel physically much better than when I won my first World Cup."

Ford has raced for Canada for a whopping 31 years, a trail-blazing career that has seen him reach more than a dozen World Cup podiums. He narrowly missed adding an Olympic medal, finishing fourth at the 2004 Athens Games.

He was sixth at the 2008 Games in Beijing, and then after qualifying the lone Canadian boat for the 2012 London Games, he was sidelined by a ruptured tendon in his elbow.

Along the way, Canada's sport bosses erased his funding. First, the Canadian Olympic Committee's Own the Podium program stopped paying him in 2008. Then, Sport Canada cut his carding money — the monthly stipend athletes receive through

### + FAMILY LIFE

Ford is married to Kelly VanderBeek, a former Olympic skier. They live in Canmore, Alta., with their one-year-old son Cooper.

the Athlete Assistance Program.

"I don't really understand that thought process, when you have the best guys," said Ford, who is also eyeing a spot on Canada's team for the Pan American Games in Toronto.

"I think all Olympians in Canada get really good at doing more with less, and I have a lot of experience, so it becomes easier to do more with less."

Ford's most recent financial crisis came when global company Teck Resources laid off 600 people, and his sponsorship with the company was one of the casualties. He considered calling it a career until a chance conversation with former Canadian rugby player Dave Loughheed, a vice-president with global money management company Raymond James.

"He created sort of the 'Olympic Dream' as a company, and created 100 shares, \$500 a share, and just put it out there to his friends, client list, and we got halfway sold out already, within a week and a half. We're hoping we can get all the way through the 100 shares, if not farther, which would give me more or less the resources I need to get at least through next spring if not the Olympics."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Canadian kayaker David Ford is looking to qualify for the Pan Am Games at the age of 48. TYLER LECKA/GETTY IMAGES

### HOCKEY

#### Canada tops host at worlds

Jordan Eberle and Taylor Hall each had a goal and an assist Monday as Canada downed the Czech Republic 6-3 to stay perfect at the world hockey championship.

Sean Couturier, Tyler Seguin and Sidney Crosby also scored for Canada (3-0-0), which got 22 saves from Mike Smith and sits atop Group A with nine points. Tyler Toffoli added a goal into an empty net to go along with an assist.

Martin Erat, Martin Zatovic and Vladimir Sobotka replied for the host Czechs (1-1-1). Ondrej Pavelec made 32 stops in taking the loss.

Canada led 2-1 after the first, but the Czechs came on strong in the second and finally got an equalizer with 4:15 left in the period when Zatovic tipped a shot up and over Smith's glove.

But with the partisan crowd at the O2 Arena still buzzing, Canada retook the lead just 1:55 later when Toffoli intercepted a puck at the Czech blue-line and fired a shot on goal that Couturier deflected past Pavelec.

Seguin then stretched the advantage to 4-2 on the power play just 2:02 into the third, ripping a shot that beat Pavelec from the faceoff dot.

The goals for Couturier and Seguin were their first points of the tournament, meaning that every Canadian player now has at least one point.

Canada's next game is Wednesday against Sweden.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**“The Olympic dream, it doesn't go away. It's still just as strong, and you evaluate whether your chance to do as well as you want to do is there. David Ford**

### NBL CANADA

#### Owner at odds with players, coaches

A Halifax basketball team that was poised to play for a professional championship has ended its season with accusations and recriminations flying between players and the team's owner after its last game was forfeited.

"I feel cheated, and I believe the good people of this city do too, as well," Halifax Rainmen owner Andre Levingston told a news conference on Monday. "We had all the ingredients in place this season to bring home the championship and

**\$90K**

The cost in fines NBL Canada handed out

we were denied."

The team forfeited last Thursday's championship game to the Windsor Express, citing safety concerns following an altercation between the teams earlier in the day. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### IN BRIEF

#### Henderson a willing pupil

While Brooke Henderson's recent results have been impressive, the experience of playing with the sport's best has been invaluable.

"I'm learning lots just watching them and learning about how they handle pressure on those Sunday afternoons," the 17-year-old from Smiths Falls said.

Within the last month Henderson has finished tied for third at the Swinging Skirts LPGA Classic and tied for 13th at the North Texas Shootout. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### FIFA

#### Proposal made to suspend Israel

A move to consider suspending Israel from world football will be put to FIFA's 209 member federations just before they elect their president this month.

FIFA published an agenda Monday for its election congress on May 29, including a late proposal by Palestinian football officials to suspend Israel.

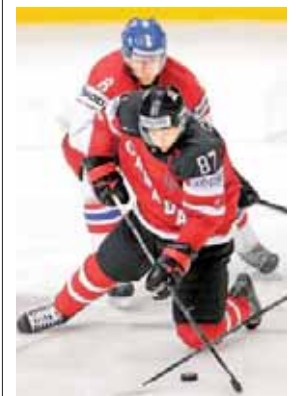
Palestinian officials insist Israel's football federation should be punished for restrictions im-

### + ELECTION

Sepp Blatter is strongly favoured to win and extend his 17-year presidential reign at the age of 79.

posed by security forces which limit movement of players, opposing teams and equipment.

Three quarters of the votes is needed to pass if a ballot is allowed. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jan Hejda of the Czech Republic challenges Canada's Sidney Crosby for the puck on Monday. PETR DAVID JOSEK/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## RECIPE Almond Butter Glazed Salmon with Panko Sesame Crust



### EAT LIGHT AT HOME

**Rose Reisman**  
rosereisman.com

@rosereisman

#### Ready in

Prep time: 10 minutes  
Cook time: 12 minutes

#### Ingredients

- 1½ Tbsp almond butter
- 1 Tbsp light soy sauce
- 1 Tbsp mirin or sweet rice wine vinegar
- 1 tsp honey
- ½ tsp minced ginger
- ½ tsp minced garlic
- ½ tsp hot sauce
- 1½ lb salmon or tilapia
- 1/3 cup panko bread crumbs
- 2 Tbsp chopped or sliced almonds
- 1 tsp sesame seeds
- 2 tsp sesame oil
- Salt

#### Directions

**1.** Preheat oven to 425 F. Line a baking sheet with foil and spray with vegetable oil.

**2.** In a small bowl, combine almond butter, soy sauce, mirin, honey, ginger, garlic and hot sauce until smooth. Place fish on baking sheets and spread sauce over top.

**3.** In a small bowl, combine panko, almonds, sesame seeds, oil and salt. Sprinkle over fish and bake for 12 minutes or just until cooked.

#### Nutrition per serving (recipe serves 4)

- Calories 288
- Protein 30.5 g
- Carbohydrates 10.5 g
- Fat 12.9 g

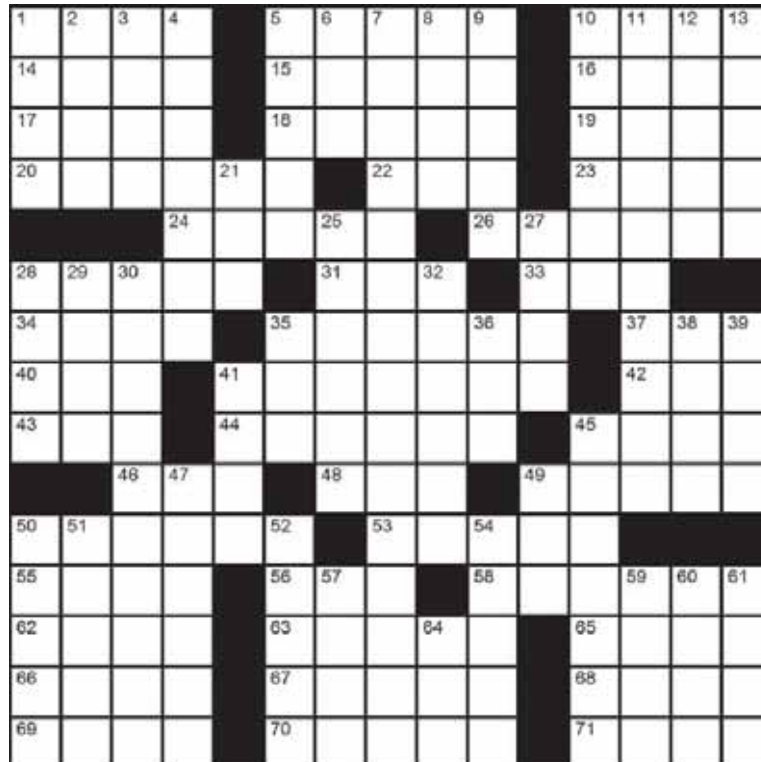
PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

## CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

### ACROSS

1. Cinco de \_\_ (Annual commemoration celebrating Mexico's 1862 victory over France in the Battle of Puebla)
5. Canadian superhero team from Marvel Comics, \_\_ Flight
10. Medieval chest
14. Cain's sibling
15. Wilt
16. Not nice
17. Ruben's "American Idol" runner-up
18. Face value, as per stocks: 2 wds.
19. Sound of disgust, comics-style
20. Writer Mr. Melville
22. 'Press' suffix
23. Web addresses, commonly
24. Move as a hungry lion
26. " \_\_ \_\_, how are you and stuff?"
28. Nonsense
31. Use up
33. Maiden name indicator
34. Pub orders
35. Sarah's "Sex and the City" role
37. Sound setting [abbr.]
40. "Everything \_\_" by Bush
41. Canadian actress Amanda known as the 'Grand Empress of Sci-Fi' to her fans
42. Time
43. Forever, practically
44. Windbreaker



45. Movie's work force
46. Listener
48. Festive drink
49. Stone worker
50. Weekend trip bag
53. Commence
55. Creatures of folklore

56. Caesar's 2050
58. Radiated
62. Relax
63. Brasserie beverage
65. Postal \_\_
66. Use adhesive
67. "St. \_\_ Fire" (1985)
68. \_\_ socks

69. Liturgical vestments
70. Ms. O'Donnell
71. Mail

### DOWN

1. Speed of sound, \_\_ 1
2. Adept
3. Birthdate info

7. Leonard Cohen's current Juno-winning album: 2 wds.
8. Rime
9. After: French
10. Hospital vial [var. sp.]
11. Labrador dogs
12. Shower sealant
13. Fennel-like flavour
21. Branch
25. Sword or missile
27. Blood type, \_\_ \_\_
28. Smog
29. Margarine
30. CKC = Canadian \_\_
32. Battlefield medic's prioritizing
35. Fire
36. Pen's content
38. Nabisco cookie
39. Yard's spread of grass
41. Does some road work
45. Cute-style Canadians
47. Grocery store lanes
49. Stir
50. Russian river
51. On \_\_ (Is winning)
52. Fireplace smoulderer
54. V-formation fliers of Canada
57. Venus de \_\_ (Ancient statue)
59. Finished
60. Utopia
61. Home title proof
64. French queen's mate

## ★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

**♈ Aries** March 21 - April 20  
You may be able to do anything but that does not mean you have to do everything. Decide what it is you are really good at and commit yourself to it 100 per cent.

**♉ Taurus** April 21 - May 21  
Some people think you are lazy but that's far from the truth. It's just that you see no point exerting yourself for things that are of no importance. It's better to be ambitious about one thing than lukewarm about many things.

**♊ Gemini** May 22 - June 21  
Under no circumstances agree to do someone else's work for them today. Yes, of course, you would most likely make a better job of it but that's not the point.

**♋ Cancer** June 22 - July 23  
You know what you want and you know where to get it, so why do you hesitate? Maybe it's because you fear you don't have the right to just take it. You know what they say: possession is nine-tenths of the law.

**♌ Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23  
With Jupiter in your sign you feel you can do as you please, and to an extent you are right, but there may still be long-term consequences.

**♍ Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23  
Don't overdo it physically today. It may be true that no effort is too much for you while the Sun moves through your fellow Earth sign of Taurus, but you have limits like everyone else and if you go too far you could regret it.

**♎ Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23  
Friends will make all sorts of promises over the next 24 hours but if you expect them to deliver you may be disappointed.

**♏ Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22  
If something no longer works for you the way it once did, then get rid of it. That may sound ruthless but this is no time for sentiment, still less for taking risks with your long-term security. Don't cling to the past.

**♐ Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21  
Don't tie yourself down to set aims and objectives over the next 24 hours because it is highly likely that things will change fast and you will have no choice but to change with them.

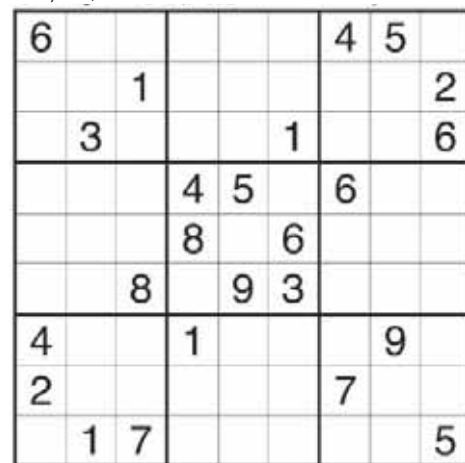
**♑ Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20  
Are you feeling lucky? Hopefully you are because your state of mind will very much dictate what you gain, or lose, today. If you believe that you deserve the best then you will get it.

**♒ Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19  
You will clash with someone today who is as different to you as it is possible to get. Don't waste time trying to find some common ground between you - it does not exist.

**♓ Pisces** Feb. 20 - March 20  
Your mind may be full of big ideas right now but you must keep your feet on the ground. Don't commit yourself to new projects unless you know you will have the time to do them justice.

### CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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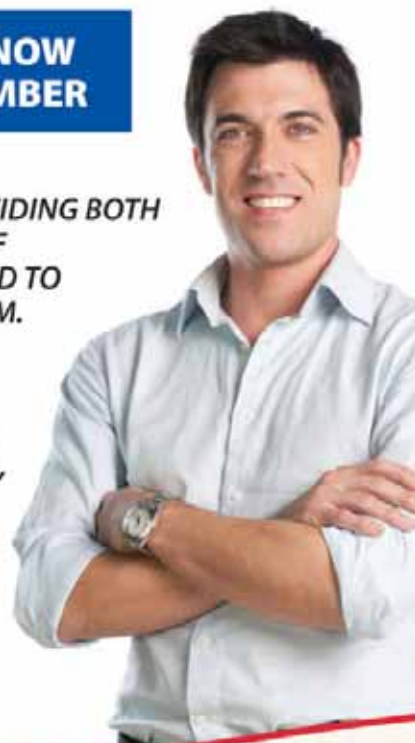
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